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ANALYSIS OF THE LABOR MARKET
IN
SIX MONTANA COUNTIES

STATE DOCUMENTS

YELLOWSTONE (SMSA)
CASCADE (SMSA)
LEWIS & CLARK
SILVER BOW
MISSOULA
GALLATIN

Montana State Employment Service
Jess C. Fletcher, Director

*Research Report #1
Prepared by the E.S. Research & Analysis Section
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I. Introduction

This analysis studies the relationships between the civilian work force and the unemployed in Yellowstone, Gallatin, Silver Bow, Cascade, Lewis and Clark and Missoula counties. These six counties were chosen because they include members of the labor force in nearly all occupational categories and, while covering only 9.9% of the total land area of the state, account for over 48% of the total state population. Women account for 35.75% of all unemployed persons in these counties.

II. Analysis of Data

Table 1 is a monthly breakdown of the civilian work force, the total number of employed persons, the total number of unemployed, and the unemployment rate expressed as a percentage of the civilian work force.

Table 2 shows the monthly breakdown of the unemployed by sex. Accompanying these data is Chart I which gives the annual average unemployment of male versus female members of the labor force. A further comparison of female unemployment is given on Chart II by county. This graph shows a definite inverse relationship between the unemployment rate, and the percentage of unemployed females of the total unemployed in the last six months

of 1970. This is caused by several factors, the first being that many women quit their jobs in the spring in order to remain home with their families during the summer months. This group generally re-enters the labor force during the months of August and September, and by November and December many have been employed in retail outlets for the approaching holiday seasons. While the above is occurring, the male labor force is increasing because May marks the beginning of most outdoor activity which employs predominantly males. As a result, the number of unemployed males decreases, which in turn increases the percentage of unemployed females. In the late fall and early winter months many males are laid off which increases the rate of unemployment and decreases the percentage rate of unemployed females.

There is one other phenomenon on Chart II that deserves consideration in planning. Gallatin county shows a substantial decrease in female unemployment in the month of June and then a very substantial increase in female unemployment in July. This is probably due to the fact that many of the unemployed females are college students, wives of college students or wives of college professors, and upon completion of spring quarter at the University located in Bozeman, the vast majority of these women leave the area on their own or with their husbands. This, of course, decreases the female labor



force. The first part of July, however, brings a number of married students back into the Bozeman area for the summer session at school. A factor that compounds this problem is that there is a very limited number of opportunities for women in this area.

The above phenomenon does not occur at Montana's other large university town of Missoula, because of the more numerous opportunities available for women.

Table 3 is a breakdown by months of the unemployed by occupation for each of the studied counties. The occupational classification is that as defined by the U.S. Dept. of Labor, Dictionary of Occupational Titles, Vol. I, Third Edition.

III. Methodology and Sources of Data

The methodology used to compile these data is that method recommended by the U.S. Dept. of Labor and the E.S. Manual Part III, Section 9050. The sources of information are the E.S.C. Claims Section, Research and Analysis Section reports and the Employment Service Automated Reporting System.



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Table 1

1970

Civilian Work Force (CWF);
Total Employed; Total Unemployed (UE); Unemployment % Rate

YELLOWSTONE COUNTY (BILLINGS)

GALLATIN COUNTY (BOZEMAN)

1970	CWF	Employed	UE	% Rate	CWF	Employed	UE	% Rate
January	34,901	33,030	1,871	5.36	13,670	13,083	587	4.29
February	35,191	33,120	2,071	5.89	14,012	13,288	724	5.16
March	35,407	33,324	2,083	5.88	13,967	13,293	674	4.82
April	36,041	34,202	1,839	5.10	13,990	13,394	596	4.26
May	37,042	35,058	1,984	5.36	14,892	13,998	894	6.00
June	38,937*	36,293	2,639	6.78	15,971	15,073	898	5.62
July	38,530*	36,304	2,176	5.65	16,825	16,119	706	4.19
August	38,324*	36,371	1,903	4.97	16,710	16,081	629	3.76
September	36,938*	35,099	1,789	4.84	16,349	15,581	768	4.69
October ^{1/}	37,918*	36,261	1,612	4.25	16,262	15,640	622	3.82
November ^{1/}	37,724*	35,718	1,961	5.20	15,467	14,726	741	4.79
December ^{1/}	37,245*	35,241	1,940	5.21	14,909	14,264	645	4.32
Ann. Avg. ^{1/}	37,017*	35,002	1,989	5.37	15,252	14,545	707	4.64

SILVER BOW COUNTY (BUTTE)

CASCADE COUNTY (GREAT FALLS)

1970	CWF	Employed	UE	% Rate	CWF	Employed	UE	% Rate
January	13,998	13,007	991	7.08	28,790	27,130	1,660	5.77
February	14,063	13,017	1,046	7.44	29,077	27,373	1,704	5.86
March	14,128	13,132	996	7.05	29,914	28,110	1,804	6.03
April	14,389	13,431	958	6.65	29,834	28,109	1,725	5.78
May	14,632	13,650	982	6.71	30,904	29,061	1,843	5.96
June	15,351	14,116	1,235	8.04	32,622	30,494	2,128	6.52
July	15,573	14,567	1,006	6.45	32,220*	30,440	1,766	5.48
August	15,724	14,794	930	5.91	32,037	30,550	1,425	4.45
September	15,742	14,792	950	6.03	31,564	30,077	1,425	4.51
October ^{1/}	14,766	13,880	886	6.00	30,959	29,570	1,327	4.29
November ^{1/}	14,992	13,937	1,055	7.03	31,047	29,462	1,571	5.06
December ^{1/}	15,254	14,150	1,104	7.23	30,631	28,964	1,653	5.40
Ann. Avg. ^{1/}	14,884	13,873	1,012	6.79	30,800	29,112	1,669	5.42

* Includes Strikers.

^{1/} Preliminary figures.

TABLE 1 (Cont.)

1970

Civilian Work Force (CWF)
Total Employed; Total Unemployed (UE); Unemployment % Rate

LEWIS & CLARK COUNTY (HELENA)

1970	CWF	Employed	UE	% Rate
January	12,493	11,592	901	7.22
February	12,461	11,547	914	7.33
March	12,607	11,654	953	7.55
April	12,901	12,028	873	6.77
May	13,216	12,336	880	6.66
June	13,910	12,832	1,078	7.75
July	14,155*	13,148	999	7.06
August	14,251*	13,386	857	6.01
September	13,670*	12,862	800	5.85
October ^{1/}	13,588	12,864	724	5.32
November ^{1/}	13,479	12,612	867	6.43
December ^{1/}	13,424	12,454	970	7.23
Ann. Avg. ^{1/}	13,346*	12,443	901	6.75

MISSOULA COUNTY (MISSOULA)

1970	CWF	Employed	UE	% Rate
January	22,375	21,041	1,334	5.96
February	22,673	21,115	1,558	6.87
March	22,966*	21,270	1,692	7.36
April	23,152	21,685	1,467	6.33
May	23,510	22,030	1,480	6.29
June	24,493	22,700	1,793	7.32
July	23,558	22,123	1,435	6.09
August	23,273	22,062	1,211	5.20
September	23,091	21,939	1,152	4.98
October ^{1/}	24,545*	23,338	1,182	4.81
November ^{1/}	24,741*	23,341	1,375	5.55
December ^{1/}	24,413*	22,999	1,389	5.68
Ann. Avg. ^{1/}	23,566*	22,137	1,422	6.04

* Includes Strikers.

^{1/} Preliminary figures.

TABLE 2

1970

UNEMPLOYED BY SEX

1970	YELLOWSTONE COUNTY			GALLATIN COUNTY			SILVER BOW COUNTY		
	Unemployed			Unemployed			Unemployed		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
January	1,871	1,352	519	587	352	235	991	695	296
February	2,071	1,411	660	724	451	273	1,046	712	334
March	2,083	1,417	666	674	438	236	996	713	283
April	1,839	1,342	497	596	350	246	958	667	291
May	1,984	1,425	559	894	516	378	982	712	270
June	2,639	1,872	767	898	742	156	1,235	807	428
July	2,176	1,590	586	706	364	342	1,006	710	296
August	1,903	1,292	611	629	323	306	930	655	275
September	1,789	1,022	767	768	380	388	950	580	370
October ^{1/}	1,612	911	701	622	312	310	886	511	375
November ^{1/}	1,961	1,316	645	741	325	416	1,055	611	444
December ^{1/}	1,940	1,491	449	645	434	211	1,104	781	323
Ann. Avg. ^{1/}	1,989	1,370	619	707	416	291	1,012	680	332

1970	CASCADE COUNTY			LEWIS & CLARK COUNTY			MISSOULA COUNTY		
	Unemployed			Unemployed			Unemployed		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
January	1,660	926	734	901	575	326	1,334	873	461
February	1,704	1,049	655	914	526	388	1,558	1,035	523
March	1,804	1,042	762	953	608	345	1,692	1,073	619
April	1,725	1,080	645	873	539	334	1,467	926	541
May	1,843	1,064	779	880	552	328	1,480	965	515
June	2,128	1,348	780	1,078	696	382	1,793	1,171	622
July	1,766	1,037	729	999	672	327	1,435	956	479
August	1,425	770	655	857	566	291	1,211	788	423
September	1,425	704	721	800	522	278	1,152	665	487
October ^{1/}	1,327	688	639	724	394	330	1,182	710	472
November ^{1/}	1,571	974	597	867	523	344	1,375	917	458
December ^{1/}	1,653	1,184	469	970	655	315	1,389	1,003	386
Ann. Avg. ^{1/}	1,669	989	680	901	569	332	1,422	924	499

^{1/} Preliminary.

TABLE 3

1970

UNEMPLOYMENT BY OCCUPATIONAL CATEGORY

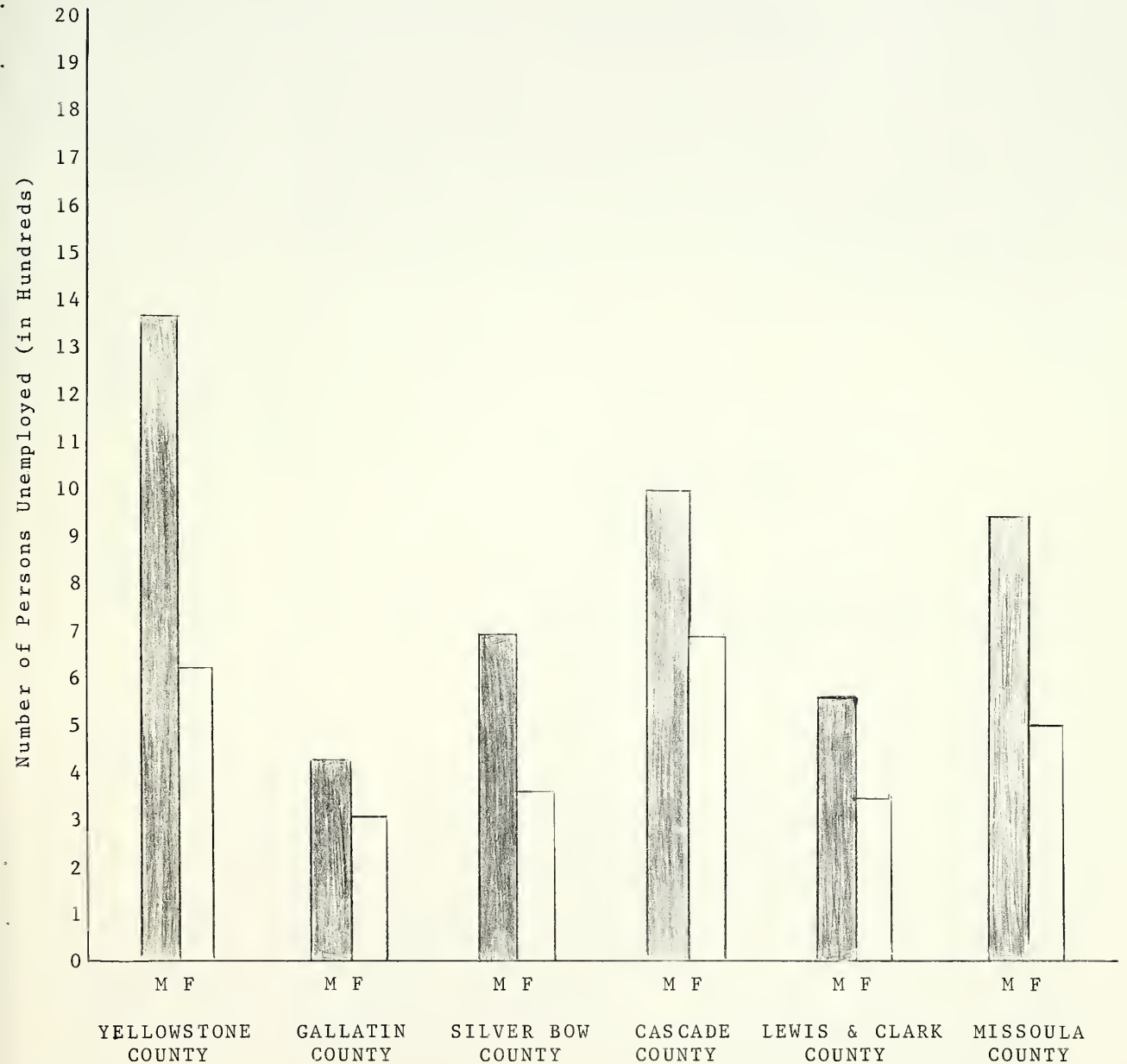
	YELLOWSTONE COUNTY	GALLATIN COUNTY	SILVER BOW COUNTY
Occupational Category	Annual Average Unemployed	Annual Average Unemployed	Annual Average Unemployed
Professional, Technical & Managerial	120	39	26
Clerical	284	108	163
Sales	119	51	92
Domestic	253	28	73
Service	324	121	233
Forestry, Farming, Fishing & Related	220	84	27
Processing Occupations	14	6	28
Machine Trades	74	46	26
Benchwork Occupations	20	7	4
Structural Work Occupations	277	103	132
Miscellaneous Occupations	284	114	208
TOTAL	1,989	707	1,012

	CASCADE COUNTY	LEWIS & CLARK COUNTY	MISSOULA COUNTY
Occupational Category	Annual Average Unemployed	Annual Average Unemployed	Annual Average Unemployed
Professional, Technical & Managerial	89	45	87
Clerical	311	174	232
Sales	150	54	134
Domestic	65	53	35
Service	281	161	227
Forestry, Farming, Fishing & Related	71	62	63
Processing Occupations	15	6	11
Machine Trades	60	36	135
Benchwork Occupations	14	5	20
Structural Work Occupations	208	224	208
Miscellaneous Occupations	405	81	270
TOTAL	1,669	901	1,422

CHART I

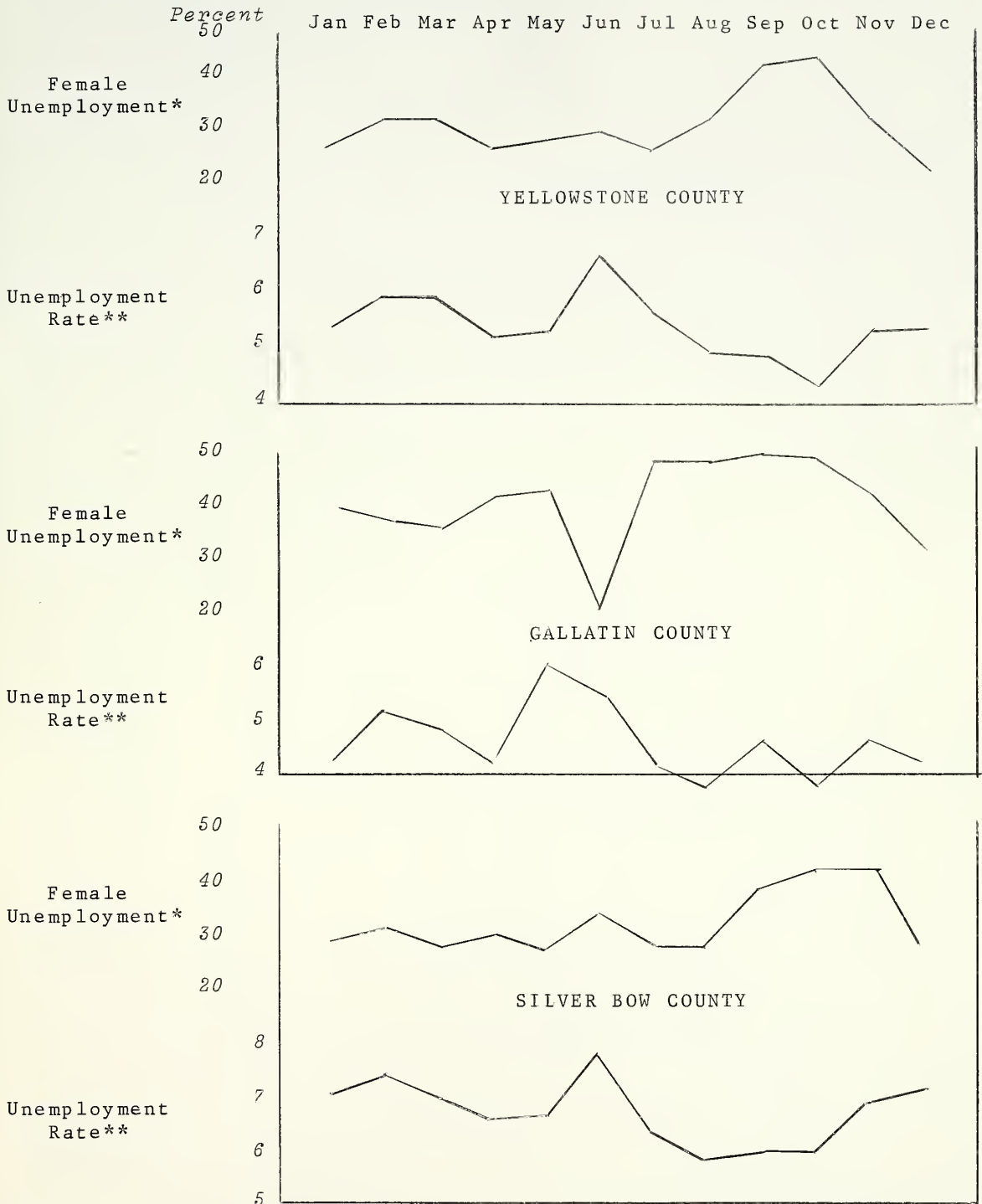
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UNEMPLOYED BY SEX IN SIX MAJOR MONTANA COUNTIES



1970

UNEMPLOYED FEMALES AS COMPARED TO COUNTY UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

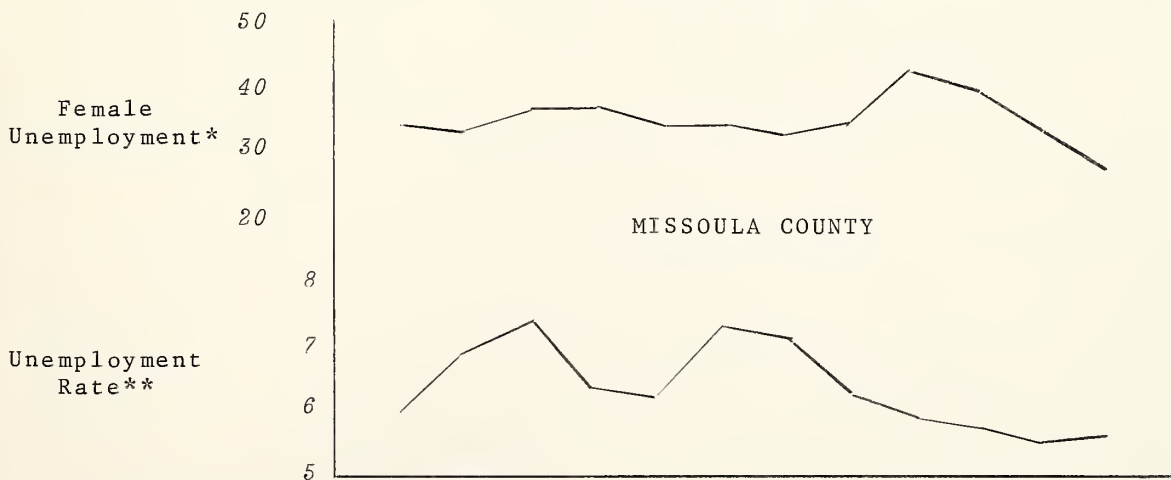
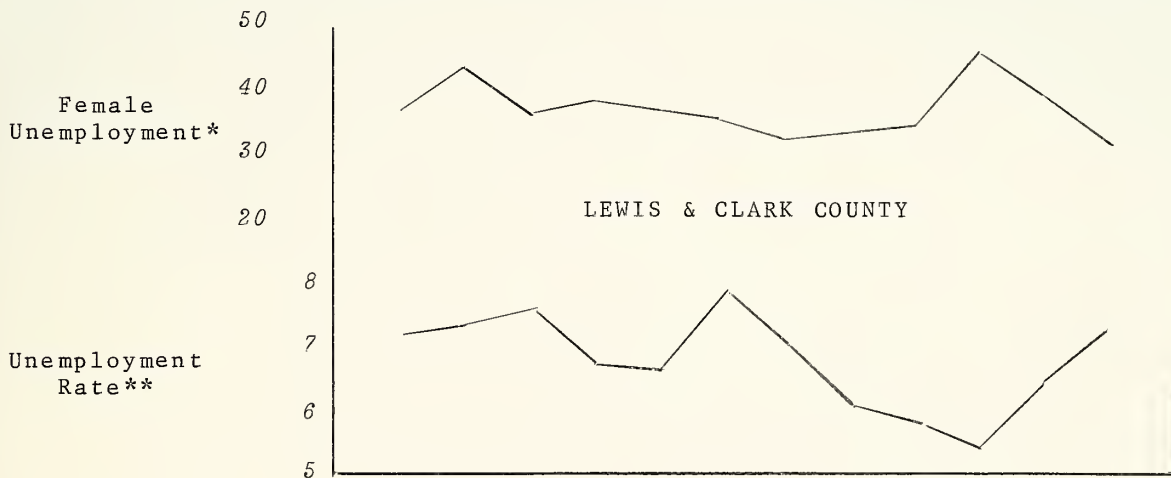
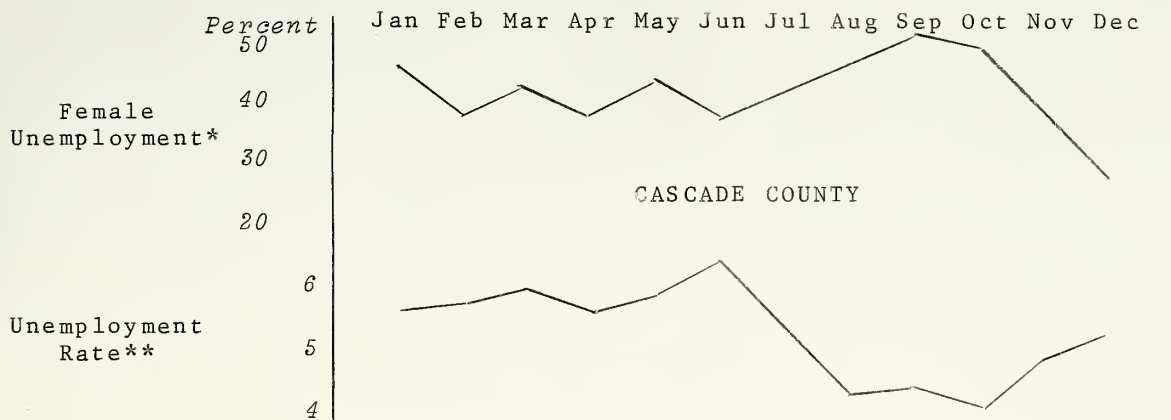


* Female unemployed expressed as a percent of total unemployed.

** Unemployment rate of the civilian work force.

1970

UNEMPLOYED FEMALES AS COMPARED TO COUNTY UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



* Female unemployed expressed as a percent of total unemployed.

** Unemployment rate of the civilian work force.

